

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 OES-03 FEA-01 INT-05 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /090 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, BE

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET'S PLANS FOR
THE FUTURE

1. DURING A TALK DEVOTED LARGELY TO ENERGY MATTERS (SEE SEPTTEL)
EC VICE PRESIDENT SIMONET'S CHEF DE CABINET VANDEN ABEELE TOLD
USED DCM MORRIS THAT SIMONET PLANNED TO LEAVE THE COMMISSION AND
RETURN TO BELGIAN POLITICS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE LIFE OF
THE CURRENT COMMISSION IN DECEMBER 1976. ACCORDING TO VANDEN
ABEELE SIMONET WAS HOPEFUL THAT AS A MAJOR LEGACY OF HIS SERVICE
WITH THE COMMISSION IT WILL HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE FOR THE NINE
TO PULL TOGETHER A FAIRLY COMPREHENSIVE COMMON ENERGY POLICY
PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE.

2. COMMENT: SIMONET'S OWN PERSONAL AMBITION TO LEAVE THE
COMMISSION ON SUCH AN UPBEAT NOTE WILL CERTAINLY ADD IMPETUS
TO THE COMMISSION'S EFFORTS IN THE COMING MONTHS TOWARDS
PULLING TOGETHER AN ENERGY PACKAGE. IT IS FAR FROM CLEAR,
HOWEVER, THAT THE TRADITIONAL DIFFERENCES ON ENERGY POLICY
WHICH HAVE FOILED PREVIOUS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A COMMON ENERGY
POLICY WILL BE OVERCOME BY EVEN A MAJOR SIMONET-INSPIRED

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COMMISSION EFFORT. GREENWALD

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